

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06
OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /107 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/FSE:LRRAICHT:LS
APPROVED BY EB/ORF/FSE - LAWRENCE R. RAICHT
FEA:PBORRE (INFO)
EUR/RPE:ADSSENS
TREAS:ASAFIRE (INFO)

-----220218Z 032196 /63

P R 212309Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY
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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A. DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: ENRG, IEA

SUBJECT: ENERGY: IEA/SLT REVIEWS

1. ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO DELIVER SLT CHAIRMAN'S NOTE IN PARA 2 TO HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR SLT MATTERS. PLEASE INFORM THEM THAT THIS NOTE SUPPLEMENTS THAT SENT SEPTEL SETTING OUT SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED AT MARCH 30--APRIL 1 SLT MEETINGS. OECD PLEASE PASS TO IEA SECRETARIAT.

2. IEA/SLT REVIEW PROCESS.

A) THE BASIC OBJECTIVES FOR THE REVIEW OF IEA MEMBER COUNTRIES ENERGY PROGRAMS ARE:

-- TO ESTABLISH A REGULAR AND SYSTEMATIC FLOW OF BASIC INFORMATION ON THE FULL SPECTRUM OF MEMBER COUNTRY ENERGY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS;

-- TO ENSURE THAT THE REVIEW PROCESS IS STRUCTURED IN A WAY THAT WILL PERMIT INFORMED ASSESSMENTS TO BE MADE OF THESE ENERGY PROGRAMS, INCLUDING WAYS IN WHICH THEY CAN BE IMPROVED.

-- TO ENABLE THE IEA TO IDENTIFY CONSTRAINTS THAT JEOPARDIZE ATTAINMENT OF ENERGY OBJECTIVES WHICH MIGHT BE MET BY JOINT COOPERATIVE MEASURES;

-- TO PERMIT ASSESSMENT OF THE EQUIVALENCE OF EFFORT AMONGST IEA MEMBER COUNTRIES;
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-- TO PERMIT THE FORMULATION OF A REALISTIC GROUP OBJECTIVE FOR REDUCING THE DEPENDENCE OF THE GROUP ON OIL IMPORTS OVER TIME THAT IS BASED ON SOUNDLY BASED JUDGEMENTS OF THE POTENTIAL OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO STRENGTHEN ENERGY PROGRAMS;

-- TO ESTABLISH A SINGLE, INTEGRATED REVIEW OF EACH COUNTRY'S ENERGY PROGRAM IN THE SLT.

SUBSIDIARY OBJECTIVES INCLUDE:

-- TO REDUCE THE OVERALL BURDEN OF THE NATIONAL REVIEWS ON MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO A REASONABLE LEVEL.

-- TO OPTIMIZE LIMITED SECRETARIAT RESOURCES.

-- TO ESTABLISH AN IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF ALL IEA COUNTRIES ON A THREE-YEAR CYCLE.

B) RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES FOR FUTURE REVIEWS: FOLLOWING IS A SUGGESTED APPROACH TO RATIONALIZATION OF THE SLT REVIEW PROCESS AND A TENTATIVE TIMETABLE WHICH WILL PERMIT US TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES DESCRIBED ABOVE.

MARCH 30 -- SLT ADOPTS REVISED COUNTRY REVIEW PROCEDURES AND INSTRUCTS SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE DRAFT QUESTIONNAIRE, BASING ITSELF ON THE JUST COMPLETED SLT REVIEW AND PREVIOUS IEA REVIEWS IN THE SUB-GROUPS.

APRIL/MAY - EACH OF THE THREE SUB-GROUPS CONSIDERS THE SECRETARIAT DRAFT AS IT PERTAINS TO ITS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY, AND SUGGESTS MODIFICATIONS AND/OR ADDITIONS.

JUNE - SLT APPROVES THE REVISED QUESTIONNAIRE AND ITS TRANSMISSION TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS.
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JULY/SEPTEMBER - MEMBER GOVERNMENTS SUBMIT INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE. (WE WILL HAVE TO AGREE ON A DATE BY WHICH THESE REPLIES ARE TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT.)

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER -- SECRETARIAT PREPARES A BASE DOCUMENT ON EACH COUNTRY NOT UNDERGOING IN-DEPTH EXAMINATION. THIS BASE DOCUMENT LAYS OUT THE BASIC INFORMATION ON EACH COUNTRY'S ENERGY PROGRAM, ASSESSES THE ADEQUACY OF MEASURES IN PLACE AND IDENTIFIES BASIC ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION BY THE SLT DURING THE REVIEW. THE DRAFT BASE

DOCUMENTS PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT WILL BE FINALIZED AFTER REVIEW BY THE CHAIRMEN OF THE SLT AND THE THREE SUBGROUPS.

NOVEMBER/JANUARY -- SLT REVIEW OF MEMBER COUNTRY ENERGY PROGRAMS IN PLENARY SESSION. THE CHAIRMEN OF THE CONSERVATION, ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT AND NUCLEAR SUB-GROUPS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE REVIEWS.

FEBRUARY -- SLT WILL PREPARE ITS REPORT ON THE REVIEW. ASSUMING AGREEMENT ON AN IEA OBJECTIVE FOR REDUCING DEPENDENCE ON OIL IMPORTS AND IDENTIFICATION OF CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING EQUIVALENCE OF EFFORT AMONGST IEA MEMBERS, THESE ELEMENTS WOULD ALSO BE COVERED IN THIS REPORT.

C) IN-DEPTH REVIEWS:

TO SUPPLEMENT THE PROCESS DESCRIBED ABOVE, WE SHOULD

SELECT SIX OR SEVEN COUNTRIES FOR IN-DEPTH EXAMINATION
IN 1977. THIS WILL ENABLE US TO COVER EACH COUNTRY
IN A MORE DETAILED FASHION ONCE EVERY THREE YEARS.
THE IN-DEPTH EXAMINATION WOULD CONSIST OF A VISIT TO
THE COUNTRIES SELECTED EACH YEAR BY A TEAM OF THREE
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TO FIVE OFFICIALS MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
THREE SUBGROUPS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PARTICULAR
CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE COUNTRY BEING EXAMINED, AS WELL AS
APPROPRIATE SECRETARIAT PERSONNEL.

ON THE BASIS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE APPROVED BY THE SLT IN
JUNE AND RESPONSES FROM MEMBER COUNTRIES (WHERE RECEIVED
PRIOR TO THE VISIT BY THE IN-DEPTH TEAM), THE EXAMINING
TEAM WOULD CONDUCT A DETAILED REVIEW OF ENERGY MEASURES
IN PLACE IN THE COUNTRY BEING REVIEWED. BASED ON THE
INFORMATION GATHERED IN THIS PROCESS THE TEAM WOULD
PREPARE A BASE DOCUMENT CONTAINING BASIC ENERGY BALANCES,
ITS MAJOR FINDINGS, IDENTIFYING KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDER-
ATION DURING THE SLT REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
IMPROVING SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF COUNTRY ENERGY PROGRAMS,
WHICH WOULD PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR THE SUBSEQUENT SLT
REVIEW. THE DRAFT BASE DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE
EXAMINING TEAM WOULD BE REVIEWED BY THE CHAIRMEN OF THE
SLT AND THE THREE SUBGROUPS.

TIMETABLE FOR IN-DEPTH REVIEW:

MARCH 30 -- IDENTIFICATION OF COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED IN
1977. (ON THE BASIS OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AND THE
NEED TO UPDATE BASE DATA ON CERTAIN COUNTRIES, I SUGGEST

THE FOLLOWING SEVEN COUNTRIES FOR IN-DEPTH EXAMINATION
THIS YEAR: AUSTRIA, CANADA, GREECE, LUXEMBOURG, JAPAN,
NEW ZEALAND AND NORWAY. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF
DELEGATIONS FROM THESE COUNTRIES WERE IN A POSITION TO
CONFIRM THEIR READINESS TO RECEIVE AN IN-DEPTH EXAMINA-
TION DURING THE COURSE OF 1977.)

JULY/OCTOBER -- VISITS TO CAPITALS BY REVIEW TEAM AND
PREPARATION OF BASE DOCUMENT FOR SLT REVIEW.

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D) OTHER ISSUES:

1) IDENTIFICATION OF RAPORTEURS.- WE MAY WISH TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF APPOINTING COUNTRIES, RATHER THAN INDIVIDUALS AS LEAD RAPORTEURS FOR THE REVIEW OF EACH COUNTRY. THE SELECTION OF RAPORTEURS SHOULD ALSO ENSURE ADEQUATE BALANCE BETWEEN THE THREE SUBGROUPS, AS APPROPRIATE TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE COUNTRY BEING EXAMINED. WE MAY ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER WHETHER IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE IN SOME INSTANCES TO SELECT CO-RAPORTEURS.

2) ROLE OF RAPORTEURS -- DURING THE SLT REVIEW JUST COMPLETED, THE ROLE OF THE RAPORTEUR WAS NOT ALWAYS DEFINED AS PRECISELY AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE TIME CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED FOR COMPLETING THIS FIRST ROUND OF REVIEWS. WE SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO DESCRIBE THEIR ROLE MORE PRECISELY FOR THE FORTHCOMING REVIEW.

3) RELATIONSHIP OF THE SLT REVIEW OF OVERALL COUNTRY ENERGY PROGRAMS TO THE FORTHCOMING REVIEW OF NATIONAL R&D PROGRAMS PLANNED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY R&D (CERD). THE CERD PLANS A REVIEW OF NATIONAL R&D PROGRAMS AT THE END OF THIS YEAR. OBVIOUSLY, ENERGY R&D PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN OVERALL NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAMS. GIVEN THE TECHNICAL NATURE OF THIS SUBJECT, IT SEEMS APPROPRIATE THAT THIS REVIEW BE CONDUCTED IN THE CERD. HOWEVER, I HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF BUILDING AN ORGANIC LINKAGE BETWEEN THE CERD PROCESS AND THE SLT REVIEW. IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE, FOR EXAMPLE, TO INCLUDE AN R&D EXPERT IN SOME OF THE IN-DEPTH REVIEWS. WE SHOULD ALSO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE RESULTS OF THE CERD REVIEW IN EXAMINING NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAMS IN THE SLT. I HOPE TO PURSUE THIS SUBJECT FURTHER WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CERD DIRECTLY AND THROUGH THE SECRETARIAT IN ADVANCE OF OUR MEETING ON MARCH 30. THIS SHOULD ENABLE US TO HAVE AN INFORMED DISCUSSION ON THIS MATTER.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSERVATION, ENERGY, INFORMATION EXCHANGE, POLICIES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, COMMITTEES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE062663
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LRRRAICHT:LS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770097-0084
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770338/aaaabgoj.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6a9cd4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3042762
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ENERGY: IEA/SLT REVIEWS
TAGS: ENRG, XG, IEA
To: ANKARA ATHENS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6a9cd4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009